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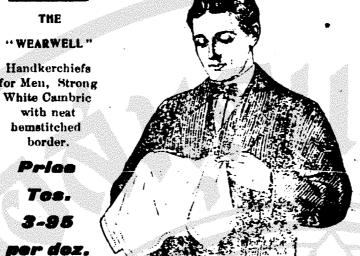
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German Club and the Umschau-Office. The objects to be raffled will be on view during the Bazar at the German Legation on the 24th and 25th instant. The Raffle No. II. will be drawn as soon as all tickets are sold which fact will be announced in the local Papers, but at the latest on April 30th, 1917 at the German Legation.

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The Influence of Education.

In one of his last cassays Herbert Spencer restated the view which he had expressed sixty years previously and from which he had never swerved, -that State education was productive of more harm than good. Probably if he were alive to day he would see no cause to alter his view.—if, indeed, he did not find strong evidence to strengthen it. Although Spencer stood almost,—if not quite sions on this point, and his warnings have been absolutely disregarded, it may be worth while to recapitulate them and to see how far they have been verified. The best summary of his views is to be found in the comy above referred to, contained in his last work, "Facts and Comments," and in this he reiterares his contention that the law of supply and demand cannot be restricted to the material sphere but must be extended to the mental sphere, and that as any interference with the supply and demand of commodities is mischievods, so also must be mischievous any interference with the supply and demand of intellectual culture. Further, the organisation of education by the State implies that the State system of culture is imposed upon the citizens whose in-dividual faculties are thus restricted, and also, as in the case of England, where we have a mixed system of private and State control, compels A, whose children go to a private school, to pay for the education of the children of B, who sends his children to a State school, thus lessening the parental responsibility of B. Again Spender, more especially in his later years, denied any connection between infellectual culture and moral improvement, or, in other words, denied that intellectualisation and moralisation go hand in

This last point is one which is well worth considering at the present time. It is easy to understand how the connection between education and moral improvement afose. Those who had felt the impulse for education thought that their moralisation was the result not the cause of that impulse. They were confirmed in this view on looking around. Everywhere they saw types of highly educated men showing a high degree of moralisation, which, in spite of some exceptions, could not but impress them with the value of education as a moral factor. What wonder that they sought to apply to others, even under compulsion, that which they thought had done so much good to themselves. Even from the point of view of economies, education apeared to otter indisputable advanta The cause of poverty lay in the inability to take part in the work of life. Remove the ignorance and the ability of every citizen to earn his own living would be increased, if not made certain. It was true that education as an intellectualising factor, could not compel the lazy man to work, but it was hoped that the moralising influence, combined with the training gone through in the schools, would suffice to correct any inherent vices that might exist.

How have these contentions been

borne out? State education has now become a dominant factor in all countries which claim to be progressive. It is now a common procedure to judge the moral standard of a nation by the number of its illiterate, the implication of course being that the person who cannot write his name must be on a lower moral and intellectual plane than the person who can. Lately we have seen the power and might of Germany ascribed to education, and a de mand raised that similar education be available in Britain in spite of the fact that all the intellectual forces of Germany have been directed, not towards the improvement of society but towards its destruction; that Germany's actions have strikingly negatived the alleged moralising influence of education; and that so far as humanity at large is concorned it would have been better if Germany had never been educated at all. If Herbert Spencer were alive now it would untoothedly be to Germany that he would look for confirmation of his views. Here, he would say, is a nation that has been highly intellectualised; a nation which has been described, rightly or wrongly, as the most intellectual in Europe. Its system of State education is probably the most perfect in the world, and it is in Germany, if anywhere, that we should find the alleged civilising and moralising effects of education. Even if the moral stagnation-if not absolute degeneration—of Germany be ascribedito the effect of militarism, then we must confess that the power of education to overcome an evil influence is singularly small, if not absolutely lacking. Further, if it is contended that the war, with all its ruthlessness and savagery, is the work of a small party in the State, and that the people are but following their leaders lile sheep, then it must be admitted that the higher the education the less its moral effect. It is to the leaders in the war that we ought to look for a high ethical standard, since they represent the flower of the educational system, and it is in the rank and file that we should expect to find the greatest evidence of demoralisation, since they are less affected by the alleged influence of education. The facts are all the other way, however. Whenever we hear of a touch of common humanity it is sure to have come from a private soldier; whenever we hear of some action more

than usually barbarods we are certain to find that it has emanated from one of the leaders, whether military or civil. Moreover the sheep-like attitude of the people is a striking example of the effect of State education in reducing the individuality of citizens to the same level. When the State prescribes what form the education shall take, what ideas shall be put into the children's heads, what, in fact, the form of culture shall be, then we may expect that the citizens will display a marked lack of individuality, and be, in fact, mere servants of the oligarchy. Herein lies snother danger. If the ruling few be imbued with high moral ideas then the evil effects are not so obvious, although, without any restraining influence exercised by the people, it is inevitable that some over-reaching of authority should take place. When the reverse is the case, however, the passivity of the people is an added danger which may lead to ruin. In present circumstances there seems every probability that the whole structure of civilisation will be brought perilously near to destruction. To what will this ca astrophe be ascribed by future historians? Already many suggestions have been made towards a solution, ranging from an indictment of the Kaiser as the sole "head and front of the offending," down to a more sweeping indictment of the whole German nation, who may be supposed to be suffering from the wave of degeneration. None has ventured to call in question the path which Germany, in common with the other nations of Europe, has followed in forcing the intellectualisation of the people, al-though is must at least be admitted that compulsory education has not had the results in Garmany which its advocates fondly hoped for. Even if we agree that it has greatly assisted in Germany's material advancement,—that it has, within a comparatively short time, raised Germany to a leading place in Europe as an industrial country,-the very fact that the intellectualisation of the people has been used for ends which, at best, can hardly be described as humanitarian, if they are not subversive of all the principles of morality which mankind has so painfully attained, must inevitably neutralise all the benefits derived from

It is hardly likely that Spencer's arguments will have any effect, at this late date, in changing the educational policy of any country. Yet they are worth keeping in mind, if only to serve as a reminder that education is not a panacea for all the ills of this world, and that it may even prove a source of danger. We can never return to the obscurantist idea that education is a danger to what scious humour, are called the working classes, and that it must be withheld from them as rich cakes are withheld from children. There can be no return to such views, but it might be reasonably asked that in matters of education there should be some improved relation between the supply and the demand, and that the supply, if we put aside all ideas as to its moral valueis the best suited for enabling the recipient to have the chance of becoming a useful member of society. Nor would it be bad for education itself to have a humbler place assigned to it in the sphere of things. Its somewhat farreaching claims have tended to render the issues too broad. An accurate estimate of the relative values of knowledge has been difficult to form when the issue has been obscured by the principle moral worth. If we estimated the moral value of any branch of learn. ing according to its material value for purposes of life we should no longer be in danger of sacrificing a real benefit for the sake of some visionary advantage.- "Japan Chronicle."

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The British Soldier.

A Wrong Label. Amongst the mass of present day war literature one looks in vain for a typical description of the British soldier, and this fact has recently aroused some attention among military people. Many of the books written by popular writers present to us a type of individual whom one fails to recognise. In the old Regular Army the civilian conception of type was wholly wrong, while in the Grand Army of to-day, in which all classes and conditions mingle, the type presented to us by these writers is not at all general. Some newspaper *correspondents and authors invariably represent the soldier as an illiterate person who aspirates and curses, and none seem to have the knowledge of the work of the Army schools where the national education of enlisted men has been completed with third, second, and first class certificates of education. One feels on reading some of the accounts that the writers imagine the Army to be filled with cockneys, for by no means do we get the rich local dialects which are so much more true to life than, "Ush, Erbert, 'ark at 'im blarst 'im." Nor do foldiers say "Yes, Sir," and "No, Sir" in every sentence when talking to correspondents, for the soldier is a very discriminating person and "chipe" the newspaper man ever and always. Perconally I had always objected to the Kipling soldier as untrue to type, but at the same time realised that Kipling was not writing a tract but was a fiction maker with a public to please. There is no doubt that the public conception of the soldier is wrong. Complaint has been made in the "Times" against Captain Bairnsfather's drawings on this account, namely that the prototype of his Bill cannot be found in the Army. As a rule the soldier is alert, smart, and speaks fair English. When certain people blame Captain Bairnsfather they do so because the tendency wrongly to depict the soldier is so revalent among artists and writers. After all, his drawings are comical cartoons, lampoous if you like. but he nevertheless runs the risk of being misunderstood because of the atmosphere of opposition raised by the written descriptions of the military type. "Punch" perhaps understands the prevailing tendency better than others, for the soldiers in its pages are Board School soldiers but not illiterates. One finds the soldier distinctly free from vulgarity, clear and clean of speech, and a man of manners. No doubt this will be new to many, but it is as true of the New Army as of the Old. Rough types and wrong type there are, but they have short lives in the service, where in peace time character and initative are insisted on and

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Dated 29 March B. E. 2459. NAI REUN, Secretary.

30-7 A.



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Notice is hereby given that Monday the 2nd April 1917 will be observed as a Holiday in the Customs Service.

By order of THE DIRECTOR GENERAL Custom House.

26--31

Notice.

26th March 1917.

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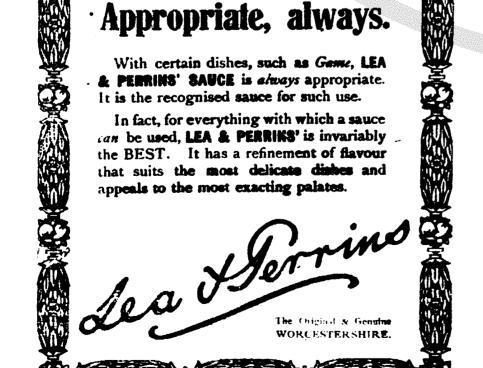
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Royal Bangkok Sports Club.

PROSPECTUS OF

SKY MEETING
TO BE HELD ON
Wednesday and Saturday, April
25th, 25th, Wednesday and

FIRST DAY. (Wednesday, April 25th)

1. Siamese Ponies: 41 fur: Value Tes. 200.

Saturday, May 2md. 5th.

Australian Ponies: (Subs. Grif
11.2 fur: Value Tcs. 250.

12.4 fur: Value Tcs. 250.

12.4 fur: Value Tcs. 250.

12.2 and under): Value Tcs. 250.

6 fur: hdep: if more than 10 entries to be divided into 2 classes.

5. Australian Ponies (Subs. Griffins): R. C: Value Tcs. 250.

6. Australian Pones (Open, 14.3 and under): 5 fur: Value Tcs. 250.

(For horses which have not won more than Tcs. 250 in stakes at R. B.

8. C. this Season.

SECOND DAY. (Saturday, April 28th)

1. Siam Ponies: 5 fur: Value

Tcs. 200.
2. Australian Subscription Griffins:
5 fur; Value Tcs. 250.
3 & 4. Australian Ponies (142 and

under): R. C: Value Tcs. 250.
(If more than 10 entries to be divided into 2 classes).
5. Anstralian Subscription Griffins:

R. C: Value Tcs. 250.
6. Australian Ponics (14.2 and under): 6 fur: Value Tcs 250.
(For horses that have not won more than Tcs. 500 in stakes (R. B. S. C.)

this Season).

THIRD DAY. (Wednesday, May 2nd.)

1. Siam Ponies: 6 fur: Value
Tos. 200.

2. Australian Subscription Griffins:
41 fur; Value Tcs. 254.
3. Australian Ponics. (Pabs. Griffins and ex-Griffins: Winners King's Cup barred) Value Tcs. 250.
5 fur hdcp.

4 and 5. Australian Ponies (14.2 and under): 7 fur: Value Tcs. 250. (If more than 10 entries to be divided into 2 classes).
6. Australian Subs. Griffins: 6 fur: Value Tcs. 250.

POURTH DAY. (Set., May 5th.)

1. Siam Ponies: (Royal Turf Club Subs. Griff: entered by Members or honorary Members R. B. S. C. (Rule 17.) 5 fur: Value 1st 150, 2nd 50.

2. Siam Ponies: R. C: Value Tcs.

3. Aust. Griffins and Ex-Griffins: (King's Cup winners barred) R. C: Value Tcs. 250.

4. Aust. Ponies (14.2 and under):
11 miles: 1st, 300: 2nd, 100 Tcs.
5. Siam Ponies (open): 41 fur.
consolation handicap: Value Tcs. 200.
6. Aust. Sub. Griffins: Selling
Race: 6 fur: Value Tcs. 250.
7. Aust. Ponies (14.2 and under):

Race: 6 fur: Value Tcs. 250.
7. Aust. Ponies (14.2 and under):
Selling Race: 6 fur: Value Tcs. 250.

Nota Bene.

1. Entry Fees: Siam Ponies 12

Fee: Anst. Ponies, 15 Tes.

Tcs.: Aust. Ponies, 15 Tcs.

2. All Baces are Handicaps.

3. Entries must be in the hands of the Secretary, R. B. S. C. by 7 p.m. on

Tuesday, 17th April.

4. Owner must state colours exactly on their entry forms.
5. Lotteries will be held, as usual, at 9 p.m. on the evening preceding each

race day.
6. In Selling Race No. 6 (4th day) horses entered at 450 Tcs. will carry 9 stone: for every 50 Tcs. above or below—71bs. In Selling Race No. 7 (4th day) horses at 500 Tcs. carry 9.7: for every 50 Tcs. above or below—7 lbs. (See Rules 102, 103, 104, 105).

F. TATNER, Secretary

Notice.

We beg to inform the public that Mr. W. Siegert has resigned his position in our firm as from 1st April 1917.

B. GRIMM & Co.

Notice.

CONSIGNEES OF GOODS:-

Ex s/s "Glengyle"
... "Nippon"
and Balances ex s.s. "Cardiganshire",
"Glenamoy". "Glenturret" and "Pem-

brokeshire".

are hereby notified that same have arrived per s.s. "Mata Hari" on 30th, inst., and will be landed and stored at Messrs. The East Asiatic Co. Ltd's Wharf, at the risk, expense and res-

ponsibility of consignees.

No Claim will be entertained unless made within 10 days after final discharge of the steamer.

discharge of the steamer.

Goods not cleared within 3 days after final discharge of cargo will be liable for go-down rent.

BORNEO CO., LIMITED.

Agents

Expanded Metal

made from best British Steel various sizes and sections in Stock.

Milners' Safes

Patent fire and thief resisting. several sizes in Stock.

Bangkok Dock Co., Ltd.

SOLE AGENTS FOR SIAM.

IN STOCK B. M. C. TO-DAY.

FISH
Dried Cod
Codroe Caviare
Haddock
Bloaters
Kippers

Boiled Ham on cut French Ham " Raw Ham " Breakfast Bacon CHEESE Roquefort Australian Cheddar (English) Canadian Gruyere

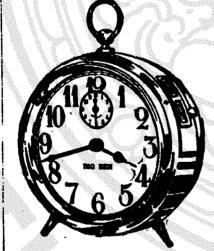
Fresh Australian Butter and Best English Margarine No. 1 & 2.

Pure Beef Dripping in 21b Tins.

H. B. Bulmer & Co's Champagne Cider.

Picnic cases containing Ice, Aerated Water and Well Water for travellers by Rullway or boat delivered free at Rullway Station or any Bangkok landing.

BIG BEN"



Alarm-clock

Just unpacked

AND

For sale

Tos. 9-00 nett.

Only from

S.A.B.

SOLE AGENTS.

HUPMOBILE

A Car the Whole World Likes.

The whole world thinks well of the Hupmobile. In almost every country in the world, in large cities, small towns or in the country, this car is being more widely bought than ever before.

It could not hold preference if it were just an ordinarily good car.

But it is more than that. It is the 'best car of its class in the world" with all the excellences that leadership implies.

In every way it is worthy of the good opinion of the world

The man who confirms his julgment of superior motor carvalue by buying a Hupmobile gets better performance, better quality, better engineering design, more comfort, better upholstery and equipment, better finish that he ever thought was possible at the price,

First Consignment new en view

Barrow, Brown & Cc.



is right in front for efficiency and light-giving capacity and behind it stands the name of Vandervell. From the dynamo to the battery, the battery to the switchboard, the switchboard to the head lamps, side lamps, interior lamps, tail lamps, it is a thoroughly round system; a system, too, which is equally suitable for every style and type of car. SIMPLE :: SAFE :: CERTAIN

There's a C.A.V. Set to suit your car. May we send you full particulars?

Siam Electricity Co. Ltd., Bangkok.

CA Vancles well & Oalto
Acton. London . End

The Siam Observer

SATURDAY, MARCH 31, 1917.

GAMBLING AND LEGISLATION

The Sismese Government has decreed that gambling shall no longer be permitted to take place in the Kingdom, or rather, to be more precise that lotteries and public gaming-houses shall cease to exist in future. This is as far as any Government, no matter how powerful, can go, for, as all persons of observation and intelligence well know, in spite of all laws and edicts, money will continue to be staked on games of chance, sporting events and speculative contingencies of many kinds sub rosa, if it cannot be done openly. Theoretically, gambling is illegal in England, for example : yet a prodigious sum changes hands annually there in the way of pure gambling.

The spirit of gambling is firmly rooted in man's nature, of which it may be said to form an integral part, and it originates from the instinctive desire for enterprise and achievement which is implanted in the soul of every human being. This impulse is the fons et orige of progress, the mainspring of evolution, and to it we owe everything that has been or is being done in the cause of civilisation and the world's advancement. Had not this same spirit fired the early circumnavigators and explorers, the investigators of natural phenomena, the probers into life's many secrets, a vast amount of knowledge that is now commonplace would still remain veiled in uncomprehended mystery, and we should stumble, overshadowed by the gloom of ignorance, along many paths that are now illuminated by a clearer light, enabling us to walk boldly and confidently. So much cannot be gainsaid; but still less can it be gainsaid that all the attributes and innate potentialities of man are capable of and liable to abuse, by reason of man's as yet imperfect nature. It is true that the enormous increase of trade and commerce is largely due to the operation of the speculative impulse of which we have spoken. There is a point, however, at which this speculative impulse must stop, or cease to be salutary. Beyond that point it develope into abnormality and extravagance, and becomes a danger to the community.

We are not of those who hold the opinion that, considered from the ethical standpoint, gambling is intrinsically wrong or opposed to good morals-On the other hand, we do not defend it as being the contrary. We fail to see that there is any crime in gambling, provided that one can afford to indulge in that form of amusement. Gambling only begins to be reprehensible when it becomes an uncontrolled passion, threatening the well being, not only of the gambler himself, but of his family. his business connections or his dependents; or when the fever infects those classes of the community who are manifestly unable to afford even trifling pecuniary losses. The transition from the merely reprehensible to the criminal stage is rapid, and a State has the fullest justification in legislating to protect those of its units who are lacking in will-power to resist temptation from the dangers into which their weakness is calculated to lead them, and to prevent the contagion from spreading amongst the uncontaminated and the younger portions of the com-

munity. Moreover, it is us undoubted fact that the irresponsible indulgence in gambling is a fruitful cause of crimes both against the person and against property, and it is the bounden duty of a State to make every effort to erradicate, by such measures as may be within its power, all that tends towards so undesirable a result in the national life. We are confident, therefore, that all right-minded individuals will heartily endorse the decision arrived at by the Government of this country, as being a further step in the right direction. Public gaming-houses in especial are incentives to improvidence, and no one at heart will be sorry to see them swept away. We have only a few words further to add. Formerly, although the state exercised control over gambling and only permitted it to take place in duly-licensed establishments; custom allowed the general and unbindered indulgence in gambling at certain times of public festivity, notably the holidays making the beginning of the Chinese New Year. We think that small harm result d from this tack permission, and, in a spirit of proper diffidence, we advance our opinion that the Government might advantageously satend this privilege in the future, as a concession to the desire to court the Goddess of Chance with which all men would seem to be innately imbued in some form or another. As we have said already, gambling will continue, despite the most drastic legislation; and it would not be unwise to afford, within certain fixed and narrow limits, an occasional healthy and legitimate opportunity for it to take place. We do not suggest that the law itself should be modified to this extent, but only that, in sympathetic acknowledgement of a species of human weakness, pardonable, and not unattractive in its milder phases, the Government should graciously condescend on a few brief occasions to depart from its customary and quite proper vigilance, and, while not allowing itself to be blind even temporarily, condone for a short space any minor infractions of its edicts and, so to speak, look the other way.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

OWING to the Krut Thai festivities there will be no issue of the "Siam Observer," English and Siamese editions, on Monday, April 2.

PROSPECTUS of the Sky Meeting to be held on April 25 will be found in another column.

THE Post and Telegraph Department reports that Malay Peninsular main line is not properly working between Rajburi and Bangkok. Other lines are all right.

M. and Madame de Laforcade wish their thanks to be expressed to the persons who kindly attended the Soiree yesterday and showed, sympathy in their sorrow.

THE Samasorn Ka Kajakarn will be closed on Monday, 2nd April owing to the Krut Thai festival. Friday, April 6 (Good Friday) will be observed as a holiday in the Customs Service.

New Ads.—Tenders are invited by the Royal Irrigation Dept. for the supply of firewood. Furnished house to let in Sapatoom road. The Borneo Co., Ltd. have a new notice to consignees. Messrs. B. Grimm & Co. give notice re the resignation of Mr. W. Siegert.

OWING to the British Court mourning for H. R. H. tite late Duchess of Connaught His Excellency the British Minister and the Staff of His Britannic Majesty's Legation and Consulate-General in Bangkok will be unable to atfend the Royal Garden Party at the Anantasamgom Palace on April 1st.

THERE will be an entire change of programme by the Great Mahatma Company to-night at the Phathanakorn Cinema. How gamblers win, the methods of cardsharpers and gamblers exposed, thought transmission and other interesting items will be among the features of the show and should draw a crowded house.

Rubber and Tin Market.

("S. O." SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.) Singapore, March 30.

At the Rubber Auction prices increased. Smoke sheet averaged \$157, pale creps \$156.

Tin is selling at \$103.

THE Great War.

Germans Evacuating France & Belgium.

(REUTER'S TELGERM.) London, March 30.

Telegrams from Paris report that the Germans have evacuated St. Quentin and burned villages for miles behind the present lines, indicating a renewal of the retreat.

According to a Belgian source of information, the Germans are devastating the countryside in the vicinity of Zeebrugge, Bruges and Ghent, implying retirements in those districts also.

Operations in Egypt.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.) London, March 30.

Egypt. Official.—Ve advanced fifteen miles from Rafa to Wady Huzze and five miles southward of Gaza, and purpose covering the construction of the railway. We engaged twenty thousand of the enemy in this neighbourhood on Monday and Tuesday, inflicting heavy losses and taking nine hundred prisoners.

Martial Law in Spain.

(BEUTER'S TELEGRAM.) London, March 30.

Madrid.—Martial law has been proclaimed throughout Spain. (Apparently the Spanish censorship has suppressed previous telegrams explaining the situation.)

Hinted Revolution in Germany.

(" S. O." SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.) Singapore, March 30. Dutch cables report that there is in Germany a strong revolutionary spirit demanding peace.

German Plans Against Russia.

("S. O." SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.) Singapore, March 30. Telegrams from Petrograd emphasise that the shortening of the German line on the West is part of the plan to over-

whelm Russia. Statement of General Cadorna.

("S. O." SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

Singapore, March 30. Regarding the reported Austrian offensive against Italy, General Cadorna is prepared to meet the strongest attack if the enterprise attributed to the enemy and to be carried out by him is no bigger than that against Verdun, and the result will be the same.

Western Front.

(HAVAS TELEGRAM.)

Paris, March 31. Yesterday there was artillery activity between the Somme and the Oise.

We repulsed attacks to the west of Maison de Champagne, where the enemy only penetrated the advanced elements of our first lines. British cavalry have taken possession

of Villersfancon and Saulcourt, making prisoners.

To-day we were in contact with the enemy on the Aisne. We captured in the course of subsequent operations to the south of the Oise, material and munition depots.

The Germans bombarded Soissons at long range.

We repulsed enemy tentatives in Champagne towards Fahure and in the Argonne. We retook on the left bank of the Meuse the last line of trenches which were occupied by the enemy on the 18th jest., also Bois Avocourt and Hill 364.

Dunkirk Bombarded.

(HAVAS TELEGRAM.)

Paris, March 29. German torpedo boats bombarded Dunkirk dropping sixty shells. There were two victims.

French Colonial Banks.

(HAVAS TELEGRAM.)

Paris, March 29. Mr. Cecaldi thas laid before the Chamber a proposal inviting the Government to deal with the project to prorogue the privileges of the Banks of Indo-China and West Africa.

Royal Bangkok Sports Club Football.

Season 1916-7 Results.

Opponents. Nov. 4 Assumption College Won 2-1 15 Phya Prasiddhi's Team , 3-0 18 Assumption College Draw 8-2 22 Southern District of Teachers Won 4-0 25 Palace Guards 28 Senior League of Schools " 2-0 Dec. 2 . K. O. Legion of Scout Guards Draw 1-1 18 Royal Medical College Won 4-1 Draw 0-() 21 † Siam 26 Royal Naval College Won 3-0 28 • K.O. Legion of Scout Guards Jan. 20 Pollard Cup. England beat Denmark 4-0 26 England v. Scotland Draw 3-3

Bangkok Library Association.

Feb. 24 England best Scotland 3-1

• For Sports Clu's Cup † For King's Cup

The following books have been kindy presented to the Library :— Beach, Rex—The Crimson Gardenia and other stories.
Birmingham, Geo. A.—Hyacinth.
Clements, C. W.—Short History of

Colcord, Lincoln.—The Game of Life and Death. Gulick.-The American Japanese Lippmann, Walter.-The Stakes of Diplomacy. Powell, E. Alexander.-Vivo La

Stockton, Chas. H .- Outlines of International Law. Tittoni, Signor Tommaso.-Italy's Foreign and Colonial Policy. " Wagger."—Battery Flashes:

Church Services.

Christ Church,

Palm Sunday—1st April 1917. Evensong and Sermon—6.0 p.m. Processional 99 Ride on, ride on in majesty.

514 Father of all, to Thee. 632 Redeemed, restored, forgiven. 98 All Glory, land, and Psalm 6 and 8

Magnificat. Nanc Dimittis.

S. Mary's Mission,

Sunday, April 1—Sunday next before Easter (Palm Sunday). 7.30 a.m. - Holy Communion. 9 a.m. - Mattins and Sermon.

Hymns. All glory, land and honour My Lord, my Master, at Thy feet adoring. Love Divine, all loves excelling. 6 p.m.—Evensong and Sermon.

Hymns. Ride on, ride on in majesty.
In the Lord's atoning grief. O come to the Merciful Saviour Who calls you.

Wednesday—April 4. 6.30 p.m.—Preparation Service for Holy Communion.

Germany and the Dardanelles.

Herr Theodor Wolff, writing in the "Berliner Tageblatt," especially dwells on the question of the freedom of the seas. He says that the neutralisation of the Dardanelles under a general guarantee would find many supporters in Germany, who, of course, would desire that the waterways of Suez and Gibraltar should not be forgotten. Regarding the reduction of armaments, the writer says that no nation will ever voluntarily give up part of its arms or abandon the increase of its armaments so long as it has reason to fear that an unfavourable balance of power might menace it after disarmament. Disarmament must presuppose that an all-embracing league of nations becomes a

reality. Count Reventlow, writing in the "Deutsche Tageszeitung," says : - "To nentralise the Turkish Straits would mean the downfall of the Turkish Empire and of Germany's Eastern policy." The Count admits that "freedom of the seas exists in peace-time ipeo facto." In a further passage Count Reventlow says:—"The future of the German Empire is much more important to us than the future of the world and of

humanity. The "Krenzzeitung" says :-Our great Molthe was, after all, right in remarking that eternal peace was a dream, and for those who reflect deeply on the subject not even a beautiful dream. Bismarck also pointed out that fighting was the basic principle of all life.

The Sipantas Co., Limited.

The annual general meeting of shareholders in the above Company took place last evening at the offices of the Company, Hongkong Bank Lane, Mr. Alex H. Donaldson preciding. There were also precent: Mr. H. B Borgersen, Capt. G. Fors and Mr. J. Hicks (directors), Messrs. Bisyaard Thomsen, A. Ehrhardt, J. Ehrhardt, P. Thomsen, H. C. O. E. Hansen, and H. Oleson with

the Secretary. The Chairman, in submitting the Directors' report and accounts, referred to the fact that since the last annual meeting and on the advice of their Vinting Agent they had planted rubber and their planted area at date stood at: coconuts 247 acres and rubber 236, while 259 acres had been partly drained but not planted. Mr. Mun o had recently valued the property at £19,500, after certain cleaning up and planting of rubber had been completed. The Chairman proceeded to point out that the issued capital of the Company had now been fully called up and to continue running the cetate it was necessary to find further money. The directors favoured a debenture issue and if sufficient debentures were taken by shareholders to carry on for the next two years it would make an enormous difference to their property and its value. It was up to the shareholders to take up debentures to save the money they had already put into the Company.

A number of questions were asked by different shareholders and the belance sheet was then unanimously adopted.

The retiring director Mr. John M. Dunlop was re-elected and the election of Messrs. A. H. Donaldson and J.

Hicks to the Board confirmed. Mesers. McAuliffe, Davis and Hope of Penang, were unanimously re-elected

as auditors. Various questions were asked about the proposed debenture scheme. It was stated from the Chair that the minimum amount on which the Company would proceed with the debenture issue would be £5,000 and all the Directors present and the majority of shareholders intimated their willingness to take up debentures, which it was stated would be of two kinds-A. debentures of £10 each payable in full on application, and B. debentures pay-

atle by calls. The meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the chair.

Humanities of the War.

An up-country planter went aboard a ship of war in Colombo Harbour, with a naval officer, but without a permit signed by the proper authority. He was fined Rs. 200.

This war has acted for many of us like Mr. Wells' time machine, says the Manchester Guardian. Lancashire cotton operatives have fought on the same ground as Achilles and Agamemnon and could give a better explanation of why the Greeks were ten years in taking Troy than most of Homer's editors. The men of Devon have been back to the days of Hero and Leander in submarines, the soldiers of Birmingham and Worcester have fought with the ghosts of medisoval Flanders, and Wessex farm hands have gaped at the tomb of Bzra, fought near the palaces of the Parthian kings, and suffered tortures of thirst in the Garden of Eden. Napoleon's famous bulletin to his troops at the Pyramids has been the merest common place of a war in which half the world has been violently introduced to the other half with all the centuries

looking down. The Judges of His Britannic Majesty's High Court have never been afraid to speak their minds to any body, however exalted. Mr. Justice Bray fears not the face of Lord D'Abernon and the Control Board, and indicated as much at Somerset Assizes. While insisting that the drink restrictions had had a substantial effect in reducing crime, the judge went on to condemn the abolition of treating. He laid down that this interference with the British ideas of hospitality encroached a little too much on the liberty of the subject. This is what most sensible men have always felt.

(Globe.) A Barrow soldier who was rendered dumb through shell shock has recovered his speech in a remarkable way. He was ascending a flight of stairs. when he fell and rolled to the bottom. As a result the man was rendered unconscious for several hours, but on regaining his senses he was delighted to discover that the power of speech had returned to him. He is now able to converse with his friends, and mays he can hardly realise the fact after five months' silence.

At least 8,000 wounded Germans were found by dogs in a war zone where the men would probably have been overlooked by human beings, says the British Medical Journal in the course of an article on dogs in ambulance work. The dogs are taught, when they have found a wounded soldier, to seize in their mouths a leather "sausage" which hangs from the collar. When the dog comes back with the "sausage" still hanging frem his collar, the trainer knows it has failed to find any living wounded person.

German Losses. '

Official German casualty lists No. 1,326 to No. 1,358, inclusive, issued last month, give the losses for December, 1916. They show 21,846 killed, 50,602 wounded and 15,513 missing, making a total of 87,961. The total German casualties from the beginning of the war up to December 31, 1916, admitted by the German lies, are: Killed, 1.002,661; wounded, 2,561,096; missing, 560,627, or a grand total of 4,124,384. Since December 7, 1916, the German lists publish only the names of the men, the branch of the service and the regiment being with held in every case. This is obviously done in an effort to confuse the Allies and prevent them from making accurate estimates of the casualties sustained by the Germans in individual operations. In reality, the German losses are greatly in excess of their admissions.—Ex.

Notice.

Notice is hereby given that Friday the 6th April 1917 (Good Friday) will

be observed as a Holiday in the

To Let

From the 6th of May furnished house

in Sapatoom road near the Belgian

Legation. Seven rooms, three verandahs,

two bathrooms, ample servants' quarters

c/o. Siam Observer.

31-30 A. e.o.d.

Apply B. S.

By Order of the

Castema Service.

and large garden.

31-3-17.

Custom House,

31st March, 1917.

Notice.

Tenders are hereby invited for the supply of 2000 cubic meters of ordinary threwood for the Royal Irrigation Department's Steam Launches during the year B. E. 2460.

Sealed tenders addressed to the Dirsctor General, Royal Irrigation Department, must be submitted on or before the 16th April B E. 2460 at 11 a.m. The Royal Irrigation Department does not bind itself to accept the lowest

or any tender.

Royal Irrigation, Department. Bangkok, 30th March, B.E. 2459.

Sd/- R. C. R. WILSON. Director General, R I. D. Ci49 A >

Notice

Owing to the Krut Thai Festival our premises will be closed on Monday 2nd April 1917.

SAMOSORN KA RAJAKARN.

Notice.

DIRECTOR GENERAL Consignees are hereby notified that goods ex s.s. "Palitana" from Calcutta .. s.s. "Fultala" Rangoon " s.s. "Teesta" " Pondicherry have arr yed here per s.s. " Mata Hari" " s.s. "Teesta" on the 30 3.17 and will be landed at Mesers. The East Asiatic Co's, wharves at Wat Phya Krai at the risk, expense and responsibility of Consignees.

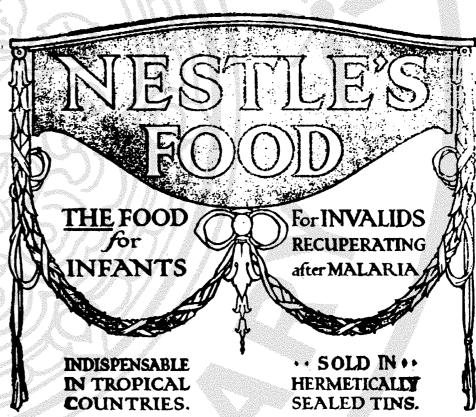
No claims will be entertained unless made within 10 days after final

discharge of the steamer. Godown-rent will be liable on all goods not cleared within 3 days after

final dischrige of the steamer. The Bombay Burmah Trading

Corporation Limited.

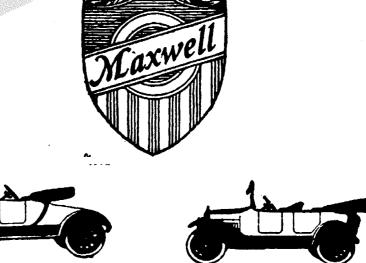
30 - 31



PROCURABLE AT

The Apothecarles' Hall, Messrs. Harry A. Badman & Co., Buan Soon Lee & Co. and at all other Stores.

The Nestle & Anglo Swiss Cond. Milk Co. BANGKOK.

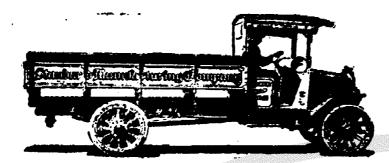


Plectricity

SOLE AGENTS.

First consignment now arrived.





- MOTOR - TRUCKS.

The finest value ver offered in Commercial Vehicles.

One and two Tonners Just Arrived.

Siam Import Co., Ltd.

Sikak Phya Sri-City.

Rumania.

Mr. B. P. Kadomtzoff, the Russian Mr. B. P. Kadomtzoff, the Russian Consul, seen by a representative of the Times of Ceplon, said that recent Russian newspapers throw some light on the reasons why Rumania suffered somuch at the hands of the enemy. According to information supplied to the Russian newspapers by prominent Russian generals and military critics, the chief reason of Rumania's disaster was the over-estimated value of the Rumanian army. The latter had had no exthe over-estimated value of the Ruma-nian army. The latter had had no ex-perionce of warfare since the Russo-Turkish campaign of 40 years ago, and the Rumanians were ignorant of the methods established in the present Muropean struggle. As examples of the unpreparedness of the Rumanian army Russian newspapers quote sevearmy, Russian newspapers quote several facts. For instance, it is stated that the Rumanian army in the first battle did not know how to use telephone and wireless communication on the battlefield. The result was that the actions of the different army units could not be controlled by the headquarters of the army. The soldiers again had no knowledge of trench warfare, and they suffered tremendously from enemy machine-gun fire and shrapnel. Happily the reverses in Rumania had no depressing effect on the Russian public and military critics. The reverses were regarded as appertaining to the Rumanian army only, proved by the fact that, as soon as the Russian army in sufficient numbers met the Germans, the progress of the enemy was check-

M. Kadomtzeff says that the Russian newspapers are full of the coming gigantic struggle at the principal theatre of the war, public opinion being in agreement that a great success will be there achieved. A most favourable impression has been produced by a speech of General Brussiloff delivered to his officers on New Year's Eve. With the characteristic brevity of a soldier, General Brussiloff expressed his most sincere conviction that this year would see the military power of the enemy crushed. He said that his opinion was supported by facts which were known to him as Commander-in-Chief of the Russian Southern Army.

According to the Russian newspapers the public opinion in favour of proper organisation in the rear of the Russian army and especially a better organisation of the food question was chiefly responsible for the re-organisation of the Russian Government. The new Russian Government is composed of the Ministers who belong to the Russian Conservative Party. Prince Golitzin has declared that till the war is over there will be no big political reforms, and everything must be done for the

The appointment of the Wir.

The appointment of the Me Minister,
M. Sazaneff, as Ambassador to the
Court of St. James's lass met with a
most enthusiastic acception in the
Bussian Press. Some of the newspapers express the hope that M. Sazanoff will be the principal delegate of
Russia at the Peace Conference.

Rumia at the Peace Conference.

M. Kalemand says that the view of the great preparations for the struggle at the chief theatre of the sur nothing of aspecial character is being attempted in the Caucisus and Asia Minor.

"Shell Got Th' Bawbees."

Mr. Harry Lauder, speaking from the stage of the Shiftenbury Theatre, made a stirring appeal to the public to subscribe to the new war loan, during an interval in the matines performance of "Three Cheers." He said:—

"Three Cheers." He said:—

"Ladies and Gentlemen,—I beg of you to give me your attention for a moment or two. It is not very often that I have spoken, legitimately, to my public from the stage seriously. But the time has come round when we all must do our very best; and I would say that in this upprecedented crisis that we are passing through to day it behoves every one of us to do where ear

"The moneyed people and the rich people of our Empire," he went on, "the great limited concerns and institutions and societies of every description have given enormously. They have almost given their all, and now the people are called upon to play their part. Don't think, people, because you have only £10 or £13, or £15 or £20, or £30 or £100, that it is of no use to your country. It is of great value to your country. It's the wee dribbles that make the mighty ocean. It's a' the wee burns that trickle doon frae the hills that make the beautiful lochs. Let us make a beautiful loch to-day. (Cheers).

We certainly have sacrificed. Some

We certainly have eacrificed. Some of you have realised that! And we are still willing to sacrifice, and we are going to sacrifice all for the account Empire (Cheers.) I tell you we have sacrificed something that all the wealth in the world cannot buy, and that is the best blood of our country—(Applause)—the best blood of the British Empire. And we are called upon to save as much more of this blood as is possible. Please let us try to save it, because Ged knows I would not like to know of a father going through the same borrible emotions as I have gone through myself.

Well, shell out the bawbees! You

Well, shell out the bawbees! You have the greatest investment the world has ever known and the greatest security behind your back—the British Empire." (Loud Cheere.)

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The Bagdad Railway.

The following review of a French book lately published, which we take from "The United Empire," is of special interest at the present time: -If we wish to study German policy in connection with the Bagdad Rail-way we have the main to turn to, French, Italian, and German authorities. Apart from numerous magazine and newspaper articles, one or two descriptive books, and chapters in other works, there is nothing in English dealing specifically with the question of the Bagdad Railway from the dipigmatic and political point of view. This is to be regretted, because British policy during the last twenty years has been so intimately connected with communications through the Middle East 12-1 may almost be said to have hingeu upon Persia, Basra and Mesopotamia That this fact is now more or less recognised is abundantly proved by the attention than is at last being directed towards those Eastern lands which are the cradle of civilisation and will form, it is to be hoped, the grave of German ambitions.

question none more acmirably traversis the tor none paths of European diplomac, than Dr. Louis Cumin's " La Questin du Chemin de Fer de Bagdad." Although written before the outbreak of war, and a. period when the Bagdad question seemed to be settled satisfactorily, at least to France and Russia, this book deals with the intricate diplomatic' history of the negotiations, and especially with the spolicy pursued by the German Kaiser in his quest for a Germanic outlet to-wards the East. The author apparently does not write with the intimate personal knowledge of men and affairs in the Near and Middle East presented by M. Cheradame, who probably knows more of the inner history of the Bag-And Railway and of German intrigues at Constantinople than any other au-thority, but he nevertheless sums up correctly in the whole, as we believe, the policy by the four Powers chiefly interessed in this question, and s, moreover, the faculty of making his narrative a coherent and intensely interesting survey of current diplomatic history. In other words, we see the undercurrents of diplomatic intrigue at work, appreciate the various striking events of the last few years in their true relations with the overshadowing Bastern Question, and realise that the main aim of Germany designs upon Syria," the latter country has been to secure not the control of of course falling to France. These Africa or the North Sea or Belgium views are naturally of purely academic but the complete domination of Asia Minor and Mesopotamia, Syria and

For twenty years the future of Germany has been chiefly involved in the successful completion of this great enterprise—the conception of a great and progressive people—for linking Hamburg and Berlin with the East, and for at least a portion of that period British, French, and Russian interests have been opposed to the consummation of the Kaiser's Dream. From what quarters this opposition came and for what reasons it was manifested cannot here be discussed. The varions national interests involved were, as Dr. Cumin shows, by no means similar. In fact the interests of Great Britain, France, and Russia were divergent, and this conflict of interests in reality facilitated the task of the Kaiser in gradually breaking down opposition and in gaining the consent first of Russia, then of France, and finally of Great Britain, to the completion of the Baghdad Railway. A careful perusal of Dr. Cumin's book reveals the methods by which Russia was persuaded to withdraw her opposition, which owing to a variety of causes had been gradully weakening until the meeting of Kaiser and Czar at Potedam set the seal upon Russian policy by providing for the recognition of Russia's position in Persia in return for the acknowledginent and toleration of German plans in Asia Minor and Mesopotamia. Dr. Cumin gives an admirable and lucid account of these proceedings, and of the masterly part played by King Edward, whom he acknowledges

as a great diplomatist and stateman, in safeguarding our three routes to the East — through the Mediterranean, through Mesopotamia, and through Persia and Afghanistan. That the second of these great world routes seemed about to fall under the control of the Germans was not the fault of the King-Emperoror's policy, but was due to circumstances which are fully analysed in the book under notice.

It has been remarked that Dr. Cumin's monograph was written before the outbreak of the War. The conclusions at which the author arrived are therefore of peculiar interest at the present time. The interests of France, states Dr. Cumin, were not so adversely affected by the Bagdad a iventure as were those of Russia and Great Britain. In fact, he makes it clear that the Ragdad Railway, as such, was not directly opposed to French interests in the Near and Middle East and shows that it was mainly in deference to the opposition of Russia, her Ally, that France refused her cooperation in the project. That opposition having been overcome in 1910, the position of France, and subsequently that of Great Britain, became unten-Of recent books dealing with this able, and the final act of the diplomatic drama was initialled a few days before the outbreak of war put an end to the whole controversy.

In an illuminating statement, which

is the only passage we shall quote from the interesting book, the writer gives a clear exposition of the French point of view. "Bagdad for the Germane: Syria for France" is his terse summing up of the situation. "Would not a frank understanding limiting the spheres of action of each be better," be asks, than a quarrelsome and dangerous rivalry placing French and Germans face to face in Turkey? Germany has a concession in her pocket but has not the money to carry out her enterprise; in exchange for our financial participation an Entente could be arranged on the subject of Morocco. Whilst the Bagdad enterprise counts numerous partisans in France, to those financially interested are joined many of the Colonial party. In their eyes the orientation of Germany towards Western Asia does not present any inconveniences. Is it not in our interest to aid Germanism to turn its back upon France? The result of this policy, according to Dr. Cumin, would have been that Russia would dominate Armenia, whilst " England could obtain Arabia in exchange for the abandonment of her interest at the present time, but they indicate the trend of thought with regard to the Middle East prior to the outbreak of the War and serve to explain the attitude of our own Government towards this question. We heartily recommend Dr. Cumin's able book to students of German policy in the Near and Middle East.

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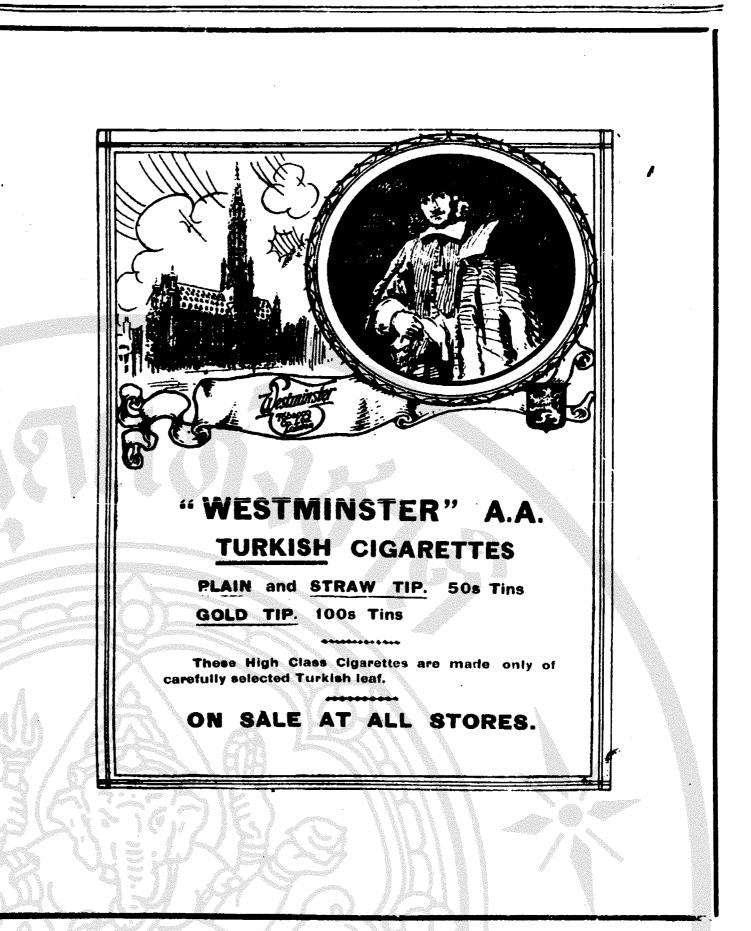
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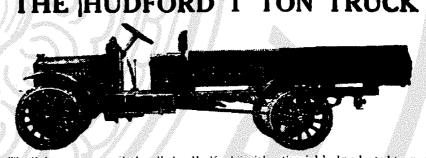
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Dodging the War.

The man in the corner of the train put down the paper which made scare headlines a substitute for news, and sighed aloud: "I am just about fed up with war." The other men in the carriage said nothing; but their eyes were sympathetic. They were not unpatriotic; they were just "fed up," which is modern slang for being bored, surfeited. And no wonder. We certainly get very little news—for reasons which are in the main understandable -but war pervades everything. It pervades the world; and however much one may desire some respite from the monster, there is no certain way of gratifying that desire. Nor would one wish it entirely. The expression of the man in the train was the cry of a mood; a mood which comes to the surface of consciousness willy-nilly. He could not suppress it; nor can any of us. War-weariness is bound to afflict us as the vast struggle spreads its horrors over time and the world. For this war is not only the biggest war in history; it is the biggest event in history, affecting more people than have ever been affected by any previous happening in the records of humanity.

It is natural, therefore, that weariness should make occasional moan, and there is no reason why one should not employ ene's ingenuity in relief of such unsought tedium. The need of mental relief from stress of all kinds is fully recognised, and even the men who are bearing the brunt of the fighting in France and Flanders, Poland and Galicia, need change of scene and occupation. To that end an elaborate relief system has been established by which margins of rest are provided for officers and men. But the man in the train was not referring to physical strain; he was referring to a far more subtle tyranny of the mind. And it is just there that the non-combatant suffers most. There is an immediate remedy for men of military age, which I need not nan. But what of the rest? Even iu way time man cannot live by war news (pabetitutes thereof) alone. And every other type of reading seems. somehow or other, to swing round the same old subject. You pick up your favourite poet or essayist, and before you have read far, you find yourself twisting metaphor and imagery into the theme of war. Rhymes and rythme have a tendency to stamp through the brain like marching infantry, or to prance like cavalry. And is cowardly to run away from life at in the midst of some fine passage or any time, and doubly so at a time when by identifying yourself practically with victory of our forces. If civilians pull be offered, and all the information, beautiful sentiment you will find yourself practically with victory of our forces. If civilians pull be offered, and all the information, which can be procured." That is true self asking what would the writer of it world. One may be permitted to do determine the work of the moment. In short, to use again the the work of the passage or any time, and doubly so at a time when by identifying yourself practically with victory of our forces. If civilians pull be offered, and all the information, which can be procured." That is true self asking what would the writer of it world. One may be permitted to do determine the work of the moment. In short, to use again the the work of our forces. If civilians pull be offered, and all the information, which is true the work of the moment. In short, to use again the the work of our forces. If civilians pull be offered, and all the information, which is true the work of the moment. In short, to use again the the work of our forces. If civilians pull be offered, and all the information, which is true the work of the moment. In short, to use again the the work of our forces. If civilians pull be offered, and all the information, which is true the work of the work of our forces. have said now? What would Keats the war, if one can, for a holiday. But have thought of the war, or Addison or the furlough will be short, whether we



BRITISH OFFICIAL PHOTOGRAPH TAKEN ON THE WESTERN FRONT. Bulgar Prisoners.

Lamb or Shelley? Literature is no longer soporific :

Not poppy, nor mandragora Nor all the drowsy syrups of the

world, Shall ever medicine thee to that sweet

Which thou ownedst yesterday." But if literature may no longer sen ! the brain to the happy valleys of dreamland, which is one of its legitimate functions, it can deepen the impressions of war by giving them the necessary

At the same time, one should not make a virtue of avoiding the war. It

like it or not. On the other hand, there is a perfectly legitimate way of dodging the war which is so obvious that one might very easily overlook it. Forgetfulness is at all times to be

found in action —
The cure for this ill is not to sit still, Or frowst with a book by the fire : But to take a large hoe and a shovel

And dig till you gently perspire -- " That is, metaphorically speaking. You may lift yourself and the war. throwing paradoxically enough. yours-if into the war. I don't mean into a trench; though, as I say, that is the business of the martially fit. I mean

organised services for every imaginable purpose arising out of the war. Helpers are needed everywhere. And no one need fear that works of mercy at home are superfluous, for there are battles to be fought here just as there are battles to be fought abroad. I mean battles with poverty and sorrow and disease brought about by the unprecedented demands which are being exacted of life. Those who are unable to fight with a gun or bayonet may yet to their share with personal service in other directions, remembering always that the relief of material or mental | ture consideration and diligentiselecdistress contributes to the ultimate I tion out of all the schemes which may vigorous and picturesque language of superficial differences of opinion, greed satisfying to soul and circumstance at the streets.

In every town and village there are they are fighting as valiantly as the men at the front. So great a wir at this cannot be fought and won by ringles and navies alones, take inplet victory the wholehearted co-operation of peoples is needed as well.

In Dr. Johnson's words, which cannot be too often repeated just now, "In the time of public danger it is every man's duty to withdraw his thoughts in some measure from his private interest, and employ part of his time for the general welfare. National conduct ought to be the result of tional wisdom, a plan formed

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